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No. 1

16th June, 1953.

DISUNITY IN THE RANKS

To say that the atmosphere was stormy at the Special General Meeting of the Students' Association held during the last week of last term might be considered an exaggeration, since only fourteen people were present, but even the most pedantic critic could not deny that there was a great deal of acrimony. The meeting was called to debate a motion that Students' Association fees should be raised from 15/- to £1.0.0 per annum and that, instead of the present fifty fifty division between the S.R.C. and the Sports Union, the latter body should henceforth receive 5/- and the S.R.C. 15/-.

The chief speaker against the motion was Jim Pead, ex-President of the Sports Council, who repeatedly appealed to the meeting to get their feet down to earth and pull their heads out of the clouds. Was it justice, he asked, for the S.R.C. to bump their own revenues up by 100 percent and reduce the Sports Union revenues by 50 per cent. Speaking for the motion, John Edwards pointed out that the motion had not been proposed by the S.R.C. but by himself, as a private member of the Association, and that he did not see that the Sports Council activities justified the 7/6d per annum it was at present receiving. Of the two teams fielded during the previous weekend, he said, six out of 22 or so players were financial members of the Association and was Mr. Pead aware that, according to the constitution of the Students' Association, membership of the Sports Clubs should be restricted to members and associate members of the Association? Why, asked Mr. Edwards, should the non-playing members of the Association be forced to subsidise a gang of outsiders?

To this Mr. Pead retorted that the S.R.C. also subsidised a gang of outsiders. College students, he asserted, do not form the majority of those who attend film evenings, dances and cabarets organised by the S.R.C. - in fact he doubted if they formed five per cent.

Another speaker attempted to pour oil on the troubled waters by pointing out that the S.R.C. and the Sports Council were both part of one organisation and that they should be endeavouring to co-operate, instead of battling against each other. If the S.R.C. was short of money, and this was obvious from the balance sheet it has presented at the recent Annual General Meeting, why could not the Sports Council help it out? Mr. Hoskings retorted that nobody knew how much money the Sports Council had available since it had not yet held its annual general meeting, although under the Constitution of the Association it was supposed to do so within three weeks of commencement of first term.

After more exchanges of this type the motion was put to the vote and thrown out, and a further Notice of motion was immediately introduced. This notice was equivalent to splitting the previous motion into two parts in that it was proposed that a further special general meeting should be called to decide whether the Association fees should be raised. When this question had been dealt with a further vote should be taken to decide whether the

fifty fifty division of fees at present provided for under the constitution should be altered. We hear that this meeting, which should be an interesting one, will be held in the fairly near future.

"Woroni" Reporter

C.U.C. DRAMATIC SOCIETY UNDER WAY

The efforts of the S.R.C. to form a Dramatic Society have met with an enthusiastic response and the inaugural meeting is to be held at 8.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 24th June, in (we hope) the new College premises at Turner. Failing that, we'll probably find a vacant bus shed somewhere! Dr. Todd has agreed to come along to this meeting and several students who are leading lights in Repertory have also promised to attend (for instance Barbara Eather, who put on such a good performance in "Gioconda Smile" and Christopher Power, who was excellent as Frederick and Hugo in "Ring Round the Moon").

The Main Hall at the new premises is equipped with a stage and dressing rooms - made to order for the Dramatic Society. So here's your chance to satisfy that hidden ambition - come to the inaugural meeting and join this Society. If you have lectures until nine don't let that worry you - all comers will be welcomed - even latecomers.

Watch the notice boards for further details or contact Valerie Townshend (F927).

FILM EVENING

The first students' function to be held in the new College premises will be a film evening.

Films will be shown in the Main Hall, Turner, at 8 p.m. on Friday, 19th June. Refreshments will be available in the Canteen at the Main Hall.

Watch the notice boards for details of the programme.

YOUR S. R. C.

As you are - probably painfully - aware, membership of the Students' Association is compulsory. Understandably, the fresher objects that he should not be required to contribute towards a body in which he has no interest. Although many students manage to outgrow this attitude as they progress with their studies, the vast majority, I fear, maintain throughout their university life an attitude of passive resistance to whatever the S.R.C. may arrange for their benefit. But precisely because membership of the Association is required by University statute, I feel that it behoves the S.R.C. to give some explanation of itself and to show by what right it enjoys the privilege of that protection. So I propose to take advantage of this rather belated first issue of "Woroni" for this year to set down a few thoughts on the role of the Students' Representative Council, and to invite your comments and criticisms.

Now you are probably fed up with hearing that a university is not a degree shop. It is indeed regrettable that this has been repeated ad nauseam, but the simple fact is that it does not ever seem to have made very much impression. The important thing about university life is not what one learns in class, nor even what one learns in the library, but, primarily, the effect that intellectual and social intercourse with lecturers and fellow-students has upon one's sense of values. Thus, through contact with Arts students, the prospective economist comes to realise that there is more to an understanding of himself and his fellows than is implicit in the consumption function and profit and loss accounts. Arts students, on the other hand, suffer from a very strong tendency to speculate upon metaphysics, compose symbolist poetry and sing madrigals and there is no doubt that association with economics and science students is a valuable counter to this weakness.

But by what means are we to bring about this intercourse between students? Clearly the most desirable way is by residential universities, such as Oxford and Cambridge. Unfortunately there is no residential university in Australia, nor is there likely to be for at least a very long time. So we have to try to make up for it in some other way. Certain universities - Sydney among them - require for this reason that all students should attend classes; that is to say they do not accept external students. This method may sound extreme, but there is certainly much to be said for it, for external students have very little chance of benefiting from association even with students in their own faculty, let alone with those in others. Less unfortunate, but still at a decided disadvantage, is the part time student, especially if he should happen to be doing as many subjects as he can possibly cram in. And so in a university such as the C.U.C., it becomes all the more important that there should be a body to organise some sort of communal and cultural life for students.

To enable it to fill this role, the S.R.C. needs your help in many ways. It intends to arrange debates, film evenings, play-readings, perhaps recorded music recitals, and dances. We ask you to attend as many of these functions as you possibly can. It also intends to bring out "Woroni" once a fortnight and "Prometheus" later on in the year, and invites you to contribute to both.

So let us have your ideas on anything. After all, you come to the University to learn to make critical evaluations, so let's hear you criticise. Pick on anything - "Voice", Syngman Rhee,

the evils of trade unionism, Professor Hope's lectures, the article you are reading now - but above all, make your presence felt! You may write an article, a letter, compose a poem, feel inspired to review a film, come out with a few witticisms, draw a cartoon. It doesn't matter what it is - just let us have it. We are relying on you.

J.L.M.

N.B. Contributions for "Woroni" should be addressed to the Editor and left, pro. tem., on the notice board in the Census Building.

GIRLS PLEASE NOTE

The first proof a man gives of his interest in a woman is by talking to her about his own sweet self. If she listens without yawning he begins to like her. If she flatters the animal's vanity, he ends by adoring her.

S.R.C. GOES TO CORONATION BALL

On the invitation of the Minister for the Interior, Valerie Townshend and John Wilson represented the Students' Association at the Civic Ball held at the Albert Hall on Wednesday, 3rd June, as part of the Coronation Festivities. All local organisations were represented, and other guests included members of the diplomatic corps and prominent citizens.

The Canberra Pipe Band was much in evidence - it was given the honour of heralding the arrival of the Governor-General and the vice-regal party and, in addition, entertained the guests with a number of Scottish airs. Another feature of the evening was an exhibition of Highland dancing.

POSITIONS VACANT

Editor for "Woroni" wanted. Applicant should be able to spell reasonably well, and use, at least occasionally, words of three syllables.

Reporter for "Woroni" wanted. Applicant need not be able to spell - this is the editor's province - but should have an enquiring nature and be capable of staying awake when anything worth reporting is going on.

PROFESSOR MARY MURPHY IN CANBERRA

Representatives of the Students' Association were invited to a reception held at the new College premises on Monday, June 8th, to meet Professor Mary Murphy, Professor of Business Administration at the Los Angeles State College, and her companion Mrs. Deichas. Professor Murphy, who is a visiting Fulbright Professor, is paying a short visit to Canberra and will give a public lecture during her stay, on the subject of "Experimentation with Financial Statements".

Professor Murphy and Mrs. Deichas impressed all who met them at the reception with their friendliness and warm interest in Canberra and the C.U.C. Mrs. Deichas is a Student Adviser at her own University and was interested to hear something of the problems facing the S.R.C. in Canberra. Once again we were impressed by the happy facility, peculiar to Americans it seems, with which these visitors from the States remembered the names of the many people they met. All present voted them charming and the reception a great success.

EDITORIAL

The second term for 1953 commences with the move from the fire-damaged premises in Melbourne Buildings Civic to the new premises at Turner Hostel not yet complete. This promises considerable inconvenience to both staff and students for a time but it is an inconvenience which should be accepted cheerfully. There can be little question that students will derive many advantages from the change of premises - they will have much better facilities for student activities, there will be much more room for the Library and more study accommodation therein, they will derive considerable benefit from the new refectory and - above all - from the new Hall of Residence.

The advantages of "living-in" for students need little or no emphasis. On the one hand there is the fact that instead of one small hostel room, each student will have a bedroom and a study to be shared with one other student. Surely this is much preferable to pigging it in one tiny bedroom at Mulwala or Reid. Car-owners living in at the College will save themselves much expensive petrol by obviating the necessity for travelling to lectures, while less plutocratic bus travellers will save themselves many hours now spent waiting for buses which are never on time - and waiting about at night in the middle of winter in Canberra is no pleasure. Nearness to the library is a further convenience for the lucky residents.

But apart from these conveniences, those who are lucky enough to be able to take up residence will gain the inestimable advantages that result from communal student life - the exchange of ideas that a gathering of people sharing the same experiences will always bring forth, and the opportunity to make lasting friendships. Students have now an opportunity to experience something that they will be able to look back on with pleasure for the rest of their lives - and the wise will not reject the possibility of moving to the new Hall of Residence without giving the matter very serious thought.

NOTES ON THE NEWS:

WORLD ASSOCIATION OF YOUTH

Canberra University College Students' Association is represented at the World Association of Youth Conference now taking place in London by Elizabeth Courtney, who is touring England and the Continent. Elizabeth's report on the conference will be published in "Woroni" in due course.

WORLD STUDENT RELIEF

Valerie Townshend and Lloyd Melhuish have been appointed as Student Association representatives on the Canberra Committee for World Student Relief.

POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB

The S.R.C. is endeavouring to re-establish a Political Science Club. Would those interested please contact Lloyd Melhuish, F0321, Extension 399.

GLADYS' COLUMN

OR
ADVICE TO THE LOVELORN

Dear Gladys,

How can I get my husband to stop reading the paper at breakfast? I simply hate it.

HAPLESS HOUSEWIFE

Dear Hapless Housewife,

As your husband doubtless reads the paper at breakfast in order to find out what is going on in the world and thus fit himself for his daily grind at the office, you might ask him to give up his profession. Tell him you married him for himself alone and that you don't care a bit whether he makes any money or not. If you feel strongly enough on the subject, you might let him know in a tactful way that you will go out and earn the living if he will only give up this annoying habit. Maybe you can work it so there won't be any breakfast.

GLADYS
